

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown. Applicants reserve the right to pursue any cancelled claims at a later date.

1.-16 (canceled)

17. (new) A method for setting up a communication link between selected among a plurality of clients in a directly communicating communication network, comprising:

storing client address information in a distributed form for the plurality of clients;

transmitting a broadcast request message from a searching client;

receiving a response message comprising a client address information item from a client having received the broadcast message; and

sending signaling information including the client address information item, the signaling information used for setting up the communication link between the calling client and a client indicated by the client address information item.

18. (new) The method according to claim 17, further comprising:

responding to the broadcast message via a response message by the client having received the broadcast message.

19. (new) The method according to claim 17, further comprising:

sending signaling information including client address information item formed from the stored information that relates to a sought client, the signaling information sent to the sought client prior to broadcasting,

wherein the signaling information is rejected or not answered within a time period by the sought client,

wherein the broadcasted request message includes an identifier for the sought client, and

wherein the client address information item in the response message is for a call diversion destination client.

20. (new) The method according to claim 19, wherein the searching client is the calling client.

21. (new) The method according to claim 20, wherein response message is sent by the sought client.

22. (new) The method according to claim 17, further comprising:  
calling the searching client from a calling client prior to broadcasting, where the searching client belongs to a call transfer group, and  
transferring the call using the stored client address information that describes clients in the call transfer group.

23. (new) The method according to claim 22, wherein the broadcast request message is transmitted to at least the call transfer group clients, excluding the searching client, described in the stored information.

24. (new) The method according to claim 23,  
wherein the sought client is a client in the call transfer group,  
wherein the response message is received from the sought client,  
wherein the client address information item in the response message is for the sought client, and  
wherein the communication link is setup between the calling client and the sought client.

25. (new) The method according to claim 18, further comprising:  
calling the searching client from the calling client prior to broadcasting,  
wherein the stored client address information describe clients in a call transfer group,  
wherein the broadcast request message is transmitted to the call transfer group clients described in the stored information, and  
wherein the clients involved in the communication link are in a free operating state at a start of the signaling.

26. (new) The method according to claim 17, further comprising:  
wherein the stored client address information describe clients in a group, and  
wherein the communication link is set up to a sought client having transmitted the response message first.

27. (new) The method according to claim 26, wherein the calling client is the searching client.

28. (new) The method according to claim 27, further comprising:  
responding to the broadcast message via a response message via the client having received the broadcast message,  
wherein an order among the clients in the group assigned to transmit a response message is stipulated, and  
wherein the call signaling is effected on these clients in succession.

29. (new) The method according to claim 27, further comprising:  
responding to the broadcast message via a response message via the client having received the broadcast message,  
wherein the call signaling on the clients is effected simultaneously.

30. (new) The method according to claim 17,  
wherein the client address information item in the response message is stored by the searching client in a database, and  
wherein the database is accessed in order to set up the communication link.

31. (new) The method according to claim 17,  
wherein the broadcast message comprises at least one filter criterion for selecting particular clients, and  
wherein the response message is transmitted from a respective client that meet the at least one filter criterion.

32. (new) The method according to claim 17,  
wherein the broadcast message comprises at least one filter criterion for selecting particular clients, and  
wherein the response message is transmitted from a respective client having a property which meet the at least one filter criterion.

33. (new) The method according to claim 17, further comprising:  
sending a waiting destination descriptor to the searching client prior to broadcasting,  
wherein a communication link to the sought client, which is connected to a client used as a  
waiting destination with a waiting destination descriptor, is set up via the waiting destination  
describer being sent to the searching client prior to broadcasting